

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS REPORT

**WINTER WHEAT PRODUCTION
1999 SUGARCANE AND
SWEETPOTATO PRODUCTION
CENSUS OF HORTICULTURE**

U. S. WHEAT PRODUCTION

Winter Wheat: Harvested area is forecast at 34.7 million acres, unchanged from May 1, but down 2 percent from 1999. Heading has reached 93 percent in the 18 major states. Harvest progress was 8 percent, ranging from none in most states to 27 percent in Oklahoma and Texas.

Forecasted head counts from the Objective Yield surveys in the six Hard Red Winter states (Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Oklahoma, and Texas) are slightly below last year's final counts. Average head weights are well below last year's level. Winter wheat conditions in Kansas have dropped during May, leading to reduced yield potential. Temperatures in the 25-30 degree range hit the Eastern Plains of Colorado on May 13. Most damage was in the east central area of Colorado where the wheat was flowering. Crop progress is 2 weeks ahead of normal in Nebraska. Moisture supplies are adequate in most areas of Oklahoma. Lingering effects of the drought have had a

significant impact on most of the major wheat producing areas of Texas. California had plentiful May rains which has led to increased disease pressure.

Soft Red Winter yields in the Southeast are equal to, or higher than last month. Increases are also forecast in Michigan and Pennsylvania. Mississippi, North Carolina, and Ohio yields are forecast at record levels. Disease pressure has been minimal in Illinois. Prospects are for a very good crop in Indiana. Kentucky and Tennessee have experienced some lodging due to severe weather. Conditions in Pennsylvania are mostly good to excellent. Disease and insect problems have been minimal in Georgia. Collective head forecasts are slightly below last year's level in the Soft Red Objective Yield states of Illinois, Missouri, and Ohio. Average head weights are also down from last year.

The Pacific Northwest states' (Washington, Oregon, and Idaho) winter wheat crop condition is generally good to excellent. More rain is needed in some areas, however crop development is slightly ahead of normal. Washington has 60 percent of its winter wheat headed, compared to 44 percent last year. Idaho has 31 percent of its winter wheat headed, compared to 6 percent last year.^P

JUNE 1 CROP REPORT, WINTER WHEAT

SELECTED STATES	AREA HARVESTED		YIELD		PRODUCTION	
	1999	IND. 2000	1999	IND. 2000	1999	IND. 2000
	-----1,000 Acres-----		-----Bushels-----		-----1,000 Bushels-----	
Arkansas	920	1,080	56.0	54.0	51,520	58,320
Colorado	2,400	2,350	43.0	40.0	103,200	94,000
Kansas	9,200	9,200	47.0	42.0	432,400	386,400
Louisiana 1/	105	1/	47.0	1/	4,935	1/
Mississippi	165	210	50.0	50.0	8,250	10,500
Oklahoma	4,300	4,100	35.0	37.0	150,500	151,700
Texas	3,400	2,200	36.0	31.0	122,400	68,200
United States	35,572	34,709	47.8	46.7	1,699,989	1,621,966

1/Not available until September 2000.

U.S. SUGARCANE PRODUCTION

Revised sugarcane production for the 1999 crop year is a record high 35.3 million tons, 2 percent above the previous record of 34.7 million tons set last year. U.S. sugarcane growers harvested a record high 991,200 acres for sugar and seed during the 1999 crop year, 5 percent more than last year's final harvested acres. The record high acreage is due to a 30,000 acre expansion in Louisiana and a 13,000 acre increase in Florida. Yield is estimated at 35.5 tons per acre, 3 percent below last year's yield of 36.6 tons. Louisiana's yield, at 32.7 tons per acre is a record high, 3.0 tons above the previous record high set in 1998. Compared with the March 1 estimate, lower yields in Florida and Louisiana accounted for virtually all of the decrease in production.

SUGARCANE FOR SUGAR AND SEED

STATE	AREA HARVESTED		YIELD 1/		PRODUCTION 1/	
	1998	1999 2/	1998	1999 2/	1998	1999 2/
	-----1,000 Acres-----		-----Tons-----		-----1,000 Tons-----	
FOR SUGAR						
Florida	426.0	443.0	40.1	35.0	17,083	15,505
Hawaii	30.3	35.4	90.0	81.7	2,727	2,892
Louisiana	400.0	435.0	29.7	32.7	11,880	14,225
Texas	32.0	28.0	32.9	34.1	1,053	955
United States	888.3	941.4	36.9	35.7	32,743	33,577
FOR SEED						
Florida	21.0	17.0	40.1	35.0	842	595
Hawaii	2.2	1.9	32.4	35.8	71	68
Louisiana	35.0	30.0	29.7	32.7	1,040	981
Texas	0.6	3.0	18.3	26.0	11	78
United States	58.8	51.9	33.4	33.2	1,964	1,722
FOR SUGAR AND SEED						
Florida	447.0	460.0	40.1	35.0	17,925	16,100
Hawaii	32.5	37.3	86.1	79.4	2,798	2,960
Louisiana	435.0	465.0	29.7	32.7	12,920	15,206
Texas	32.6	31.0	32.6	33.3	1,064	1,033
United States	947.1	993.3	36.6	35.5	34,707	35,299
	FOR SUGAR				FOR SUGAR AND SEED	
	PRICE PER TON		VALUE OF PRODUCTION		VALUE OF PRODUCTION 3/	
	1998	1999 4/	1998	1999 4/	1998	1999 4/
	-----Dollars-----		-----1,000 Dollars-----			
Florida	29.50	N/A	503,949	N/A	528,788	N/A
Hawaii	32.00	N/A	87,264	N/A	89,536	N/A
Louisiana	23.20	N/A	275,616	N/A	299,744	N/A
Texas	24.90	N/A	26,220	N/A	26,494	N/A
United States	27.30	N/A	893,049	N/A	944,562	N/A

1/Yield and production refer to net weight. 2/Revised. 3/Price per ton of cane for sugar used in evaluating value of production for seed. 4/Estimates are not available. U.S. 1999 price and value will be published in "Agricultural Prices," July 31, 2000. State estimates will be published in "Crop Values," February 2001.

LOUISIANA SUGARCANE

Sugarcane production for sugar and seed in 1999 totaled 15.2 million tons, 18 percent above last year's output and the highest production on record. Harvested acreage for sugar and seed totaled 465,000 acres, 7 percent above 1998. The average yield per acre was 32.7 tons, up 3.0 tons from last year.

U.S. SWEET POTATO PRODUCTION

The final estimate of 1999 **sweet potato** production is 12.2 million cwt, up 2 percent from the preliminary estimated made in January, but 1 percent below the 1998 crop. Harvested acreage of 83,100 acres was up slightly from January, but 1 percent below a year earlier. The average yield of 147 cwt per acre was up 2 cwt from the January estimate, but 1 cwt below the average yield of 1998. The sweet potato crops in California, Mississippi, and Texas were larger than earlier estimated.

SWEET POTATOES

STATE	AREA PLANTED		AREA HARVESTED		YIELD		PRODUCTION	
	1998	1999	1998	1999 1/	1998	1999 1/	1998	1999 1/
	-----1,000 Acres-----				-----Cwt-----		-----1,000 Cwt-----	
Alabama	3.8	3.3	3.7	3.2	170	130	629	416
California	9.7	10.0	9.7	10.0	220	240	2,134	2,400
Georgia	0.8	0.7	0.7	0.6	100	100	70	60
Louisiana	21.0	24.0	20.0	23.0	110	150	2,200	3,450
Mississippi	9.8	10.5	9.7	10.3	140	150	1,358	1,545
New Jersey	1.1	1.0	1.0	1.0	105	100	105	100
North Carolina	33.0	37.0	32.0	29.0	170	130	5,440	3,770
South Carolina	1.1	1.2	0.9	0.5	90	95	81	48
Texas	6.4	5.6	5.6	5.0	45	70	252	350
Virginia	0.5	0.5	0.5	0.5	225	190	113	95
United States	87.2	93.8	83.8	83.1	148	147	12,382	12,234

1/ Revised



LOUISIANA SWEET POTATOES

There were 24,000 acres planted to sweet potatoes in 1999, up 3,000 acres from the previous year. Harvested acres was 23,000, while yield per acre averaged 150 cwt. Production calculated to 3,450,000 cwt, which is 57 percent above the previous year's total. #

Census of Horticultural Specialties

NASS Press Release

Horticulture Now A \$10 Billion Industry

According to the 1998 Census of Horticultural Specialties, producers of horticultural products accounted for \$10.6 billion in sales. The 1998 Census of Horticulture Specialties, conducted by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS), provides a wide variety of data relating to methods of production, production expenses, sales, number of operations by size, and area in production.

The primary objective of the horticultural specialties census is to obtain a comprehensive and detailed picture of the horticultural sector of the economy. It is the only source of detailed production and sales data at the national level. The census of horticultural specialties provides detailed statistics to government agencies, academia, nursery and floriculture industries, and others on the size and structure of the horticulture industry for planning, policymaking, research, and market analysis.

Some of the highlights from this special census were:

- < California topped the sales charts, capturing slightly over 21 percent of the \$10.6 billion of horticultural specialties sold in 1998.
- < Florida, Oregon, Pennsylvania, and Texas came in second through fifth, respectively, in sales.
- < Floriculture (bedding and garden plants, potted flowering plants, foliage plants, cut flowers, and cut cultivated greens) accounted for 42 percent of the horticultural specialty sales.
- < The value of horticultural specialty crops increased dramatically from the previous horticultural census, from \$4.8 billion in 1998 to \$10.6 billion in 1998. This nearly \$6 billion growth represents a 221 percent increase. (Christmas trees were not included in the 1988 census.)

The census of horticultural specialties contains information on floriculture, nursery, and other specialty crops such as sod, mushrooms, food crops produced under glass or other protection, transplants of commercial production, Christmas trees, and seeds. To discover the wealth of horticultural and other agricultural statistics available from NASS, including hundreds of commodity production and price reports, or to review a full catalog of NASS products and services, visit the NASS Home Page at www.usda.gov/nass/. The 1998 Census of Horticultural Specialties, 1997 Census of Agriculture reports, State and County Profiles, Highlights, and a slide show presenting Quick Facts are accessible by clicking "Census of Agriculture." For other information, e-mail nass@nass.usda.gov or call 1-800-727-9540. To order a printed copy of any NASS report, call the NASS Order Desk at 1-800-999-6779.

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